Missips Racks patient in need thereof, comprising the step of providing a sufficient quantity of a local anesthetic and an alkalinizing agent to the bladder of said patient to anesthetize the bladder, said local anesthetic and said alkalinizing agent being provided to said bladder separately, said local anesthetic being provided as an aqueous solution, said alkalinizing agent being provided in sufficient quantity to raise the pH of the bladder to approximately the pKA of the local anesthetic to convert at least a portion of said local anesthetic to its base form.

72

14. (amended) A method for treating interstitial cystitis, comprising the steps of periodically administering to a patient in need thereof a sufficient quantity of a local anesthetic and an alkalinizing agent, said local anesthetic and said alkalinizing agent being provided to said bladder separately, said local anesthetic and alkalinizing agent being provided to the bladder of said patient to anesthetize the bladder, said local anesthetic being provided in an aqueous solution, said alkalinizing agent being provided in sufficient quantity to raise the pH of the bladder to approximately the pKa of the local anesthetic to convert at least a portion of said local anesthetic to its base form.

## REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate Claim 2, and now specifies that the local anesthetic and the alkalinizing agent are provided to the bladder separately.

Claim 2 has been deleted.

Claim 14 has likewise been amended to specify that the local